

Sergeant Major James E. Combs



SGM James E. Combs is a native of Indianapolis, Indiana. He enlisted into the US Army Reserve on 16 November 1987 as a 73C, Finance Specialist, and attended Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. On 7 April 1989, he transferred to the Regular Army and has been on continuous Active Duty since.

SGM Combs has served in various Leadership and Finance Sergeant Positions, his positions include: FST Leader, Squad Leader, Section Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, Drill Sergeant, Disbursing Agent, Detachment Sergeant, FM Support Operations Sergeant, First Sergeant.

His assignments throughout his military career include: Pay Clerk, 412th Finance Section, USAR, Fort Benjamin Harrison, IN, Control Section, Determination and Processing (D&P) Coder, Systems Operator, Disbursing, and Financial Services Clerk, 503rd Finance Support Unit, Giessen, Germany; Customer Services Clerk, USAADACENFB, Fort Bliss, TX; later A Det., 105th Finance Battalion, Fort Bliss, TX; Special Actions, Reserve Pay, Reenlistments/Bonuses Clerk, A Det., 176th Finance Battalion, Yongsan, Korea; NCOIC TDY Travel for 3rd and 7th Special Forces Groups (Airborne), D Det., 126th Finance Battalion (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC; NCOIC Receiving/Special Actions, C Co, 82nd Soldier Support Battalion (Airborne), 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC; NCOIC Processing, 107th Finance Battalion (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC; NCOIC Daily Business/EFT Check Branch B Det., 208th Finance Battalion, Mannheim, Germany; Platoon Sergeant, C Co Training Support Battalion, later Drill Sergeant, B Co 2/39 IN later C Co 369th Adjutant General Battalion later Drill Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant, HQ/A Co 369th Adjutant Battalion; later course writer, Non-Commissioned Officers Academy (NCOA), Fort Jackson, SC; Detachment Sergeant, HHD, 126th Finance Battalion (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC; Rear Detachment NCOIC, later Financial Management Support Operations Advisor, STB., 1st Sustainment Brigade, Fort Riley, KS; Financial Management Support Advisor, 43rd Sustainment Brigade, later First Sergeant, 230th Financial Management Support Unit; Fort Carson, CO; First Sergeant, HHC 64th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, CO; Student United States Army Sergeants Major Academy, Fort Bliss, TX; Command Senior Enlisted Leader (CSEL)/G8 Sergeant Major, NATO LANDCOM, Izmir, Turkey, Senior Enlisted FM Advisor, 18th Financial Management Center, Fort Bragg, NC

He has deployed to Operations, Desert Shield/Storm, Saudi Arabia/Kuwait, '90-'91 Joint Task Force-Bravo, Soto Cano, AB, Honduras, '93, Mosul, Iraq (OIF 06-08), Camp Arifjan, Kuwait (OIF 11-12)/OND, and to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan (OEF 13).

SGM Combs' military and civilian education include: Primary Leadership Development Course, NBC Course, Bus Driver Course, Basic and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Courses, Drill Sergeant School, Airborne School, Modern Army Combatives Course - Level I, Deployed Operations Resource Management Course, Fiscal Law, Lean Six Sigma Course and the US Army Sergeants Major Resident Course, Class #65. SGM Combs holds and Associate of Science Degree from Excelsior College and is currently pursuing a Masters of Business Administration Degree from Excelsior College.

SGM Combs' awards and decorations include: Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3), Army Commendation Medal (4), Army Achievement Medal (5), Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Good Conduct Medal (9), National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award), Southwest Asia Service Medal (3 Bronze Stars), Iraqi Campaign Medal (2 Campaign Stars), Afghanistan Campaign Medal (1 Campaign Star), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon (Numeral 5), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (6), NATO Medal (ISAF), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), Parachutist Badge, and Drill Sergeant Identification Badge. SGM Combs is also the recipient of the Finance Corps' Nathan Towson Medallion.